



Sept. 3

Where's Bob?

Do you know where university photographer Bob Elbert found this triangular scope?

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New requirement for federal contractors

Faculty, staff and students working on federal contracts will have their Social Security numbers electronically validated to ensure U.S. employment eligibility. HR records management staff will handle the E-Verify process.

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Looking ahead: P&S Council

Council president Camille Sloan Schroeder said the group will strive to react quickly to budget and other developments impacting P&S employees.



Schroeder

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United Way campaign kicks off Sept. 11

Iowa State goal is \$295,500 of Story County's \$1.565 million 2009 fund-raising benchmark. Extension's Jack Payne and Human Sciences' Pam White will lead the campus campaign.

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Looking ahead: Faculty Senate

Senate president Arnold van der Valk said the senate will look to preserve jobs and academic excellence during lean budget times. He also hopes the university succeeds at replacing lost tenure-track faculty positions.



van der Valk

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New university calendar offers more options

Users can customize their views, request e-mail reminders and download events into personal applications. The calendar also has more than a dozen filters for those interested in a specific category of events.

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Hot topics**Announcements**

- Pigskin parking tips
- Find out about the flu on ISU's H1N1 web site
- TIAA-CREF and IPERS offer retirement help
- Strategic plan campus forums are Sept. 3, Sept. 10
- Food booth volunteers must complete food safety training
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- All are welcome at Vet Med's fall Ramsey lectures

Receptions & open houses

Open houses

- RISE and PERL, Sept. 3
- Hotel Memorial Union, Sept. 8

Arts & events

White Ghost Shivers

Shake it up with 'Shivers'

The Performing Arts Series at Stephens opens Sept. 9 with bawdy White Ghost Shivers band.

Free movies

The Student Union Board's lineup of free movies is heavy with recent box office hits.

Timely national issues will be the focus of a series of faculty forums this fall. It begins Sept. 10 when a local panel, including ISU experts, examine the push to reform U.S. health care.

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Tell officials who to call in emergency

A new feature in AccessPlus allows faculty, staff and students to designate who should be called if they're injured, ill or missing. Even better: You can submit up to five people.

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Among the best

Washington Monthly ranked ISU 32nd on its list of colleges and universities that contribute to the public good. Iowa State's highest mark -- 4th -- was in "federal work-study funds spent on service."

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Honors & awards

- Carl Chang
- LAS fall convocation award recipients
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- Lois Tiffany

Around campus

Foundation surpasses FY09 goal

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Listen to the leaders

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Couchless gamers

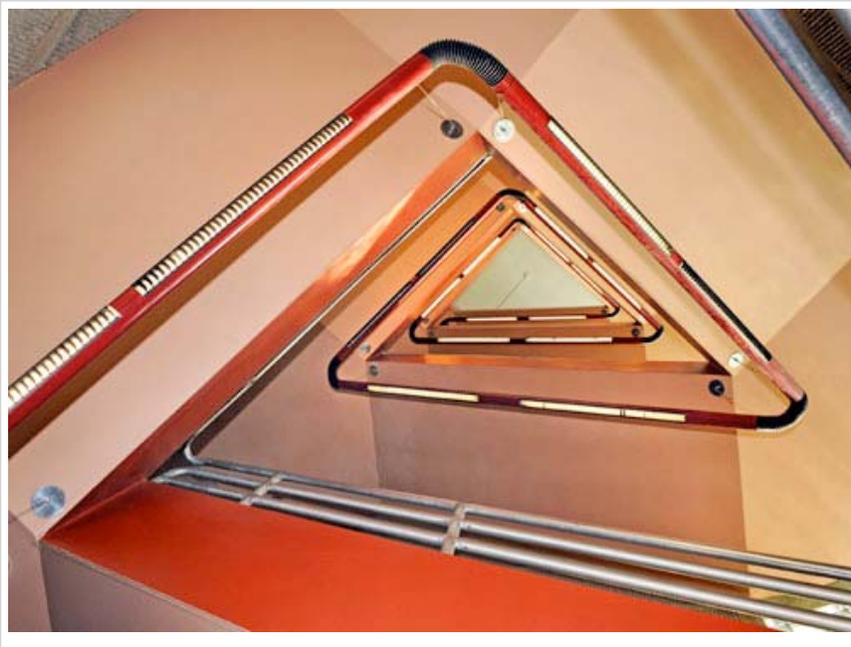
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Verification system instituted for federal contractors

The E-Verify system, a program coordinated by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the Social Security Administration, electronically validates Social Security numbers and confirms employees are legally authorized to work in the United States.

Federal contractors and subcontractors who meet certain criteria will be required to use the system, beginning as early as Sept. 8. At ISU, that means employees assigned to federal contracts that contain a specific Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) clause will be verified through the newly implemented system.

Who is impacted?

The E-Verify requirement only applies to contracts exceeding \$100,000 and lasting 120 days or more; and to subcontracts for services and construction exceeding \$3,000. For example, ISU received more than 200 federal awards from July through November of 2008, and approximately 20 might have required an E-Verify check if the program had been in effect.

Employees currently assigned to federal contracts will not be retroactively checked, unless the federal government modifies a contract to include the FAR clause. Only new and modified contracts will be impacted.

For federal contracts that qualify under the E-Verify rule, all employees assigned to the contract must be run through the system. Generally, professional and scientific employees, faculty and graduate students assigned to work on the contract will be the only ones verified through the system, and that typically would be only once while employed at ISU. For instance, that includes the principal investigators and assistants (including post-docs, and graduate and undergraduate students). It would not include support help -- such as secretarial and custodial workers -- who are not performing substantial duties related to the contract.

The process

ISU's Human Resource Service Center and records management staff will handle the E-Verify process, working closely with the Office of Sponsored Programs. There is no cost to use the program.

"There are very definite guidelines," said Lea Henderson, service center manager. "They tell us that within three to five seconds we'll have a response as to whether the person is confirmed or nonconfirmed, and the error rate is 3 to 5 percent. However, the E-Verify process has had higher error rates in some areas of the country.

"If it comes back as a confirmed match, we just note it on the I-9 [federal employment eligibility] form and we're good to go," Henderson said. "If it comes back a 'temporary nonconfirmed,' there is a very detailed process we have to go through."

The employee would be notified and given the option to contest, she said. More documentation would be required to contest the result, which could include communication with the Social Security office, Department of Homeland Security or U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services. Henderson said most errors reported in the system have been minor, such as transposed numbers or a nickname entered in place of a legal name.

If an employee doesn't contest the result, or cannot be verified after contesting the finding, that individual is not eligible to work on the contract or at ISU, according to the federal agencies involved, and must be terminated.

"Because that means they're not authorized to work here," Henderson said.

No delays

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The new system will not postpone or slow down the hiring process, Henderson said. In fact, the program requirements prohibit the use of E-Verify to screen job applicants or determine job offers.

"We can't do it early in the process. We have to wait until they are a hire," she said. "After that, we engage E-Verify as part of the process, but not until we have an I-9 form."

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Camille Sloan Schroeder

2009-10 Professional and Scientific Council president

Position at ISU

Manager of precollegiate programs, College of Engineering

Arrived at ISU

1999

Previous service on P&S Council

Council member (2004-05; 2005-08); president-elect (2008-09); executive committee (2006-09); retention and recruitment committee chair (2006-08)

Council's top goals this year

- Compensation policy
- Responding to budget issues
- Quick response to issues facing staff

Thoughts on the year ahead

"It's going to be challenging to respond to issues that come up quickly and need a fast response, especially wanting to make sure that the response does the best to represent our P&S staff."

"I'm glad to have the opportunity to serve. It's definitely a great learning and leadership opportunity. I think it's really important for people to serve and I am honored to be in this role this year."

Issue that could be the most important to the council this year

"Budget. It has such a trickle-down effect. It affects what we do and don't do. It's very tied to a lot of the issues that we, as a council, are interested in and our constituency is interested in. It's like throwing a big rock in a small pond -- it creates a lot of ripples."

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United Way campaign kicks off Sept. 11

by Paula Van Brocklin

United Way of Story County's 2009 fund-raising campaign launches Sept. 11, with hopes of raising \$1.565 million for nonprofit programs and agencies countywide. Of that total, Iowa State seeks to contribute \$295,500.

Contribute, if you wish

Iowa State faculty and staff will receive United Way pledge information in their campus mailboxes Sept. 18. Those who wish to donate money should complete the form and return it by Oct. 23. Employees who return the form with a contribution by that date will be in the running for a pair of tickets to one of five upcoming Iowa State Center performances, including Hal Holbrook in *"Mark Twain Tonight!"*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Avenue Q* and *Cabaret*.

Employees are not required to support United Way, but those who choose to contribute can designate where their money goes, or doesn't go.

"The donation really is controlled by the donor," said Jack Payne, ISU's 2009 United Way campaign chair.

Payne added that United Way needs assistance more this year than ever.

"The budget crisis and the recession is having a tremendous impact on our university and community," Payne said. "More than ever, our friends, family and colleagues need our help."

Pam White, dean of the College of Human Sciences, is this year's leadership chair, working to increase Iowa State's campaign leadership gifts. Last year, ISU employees contributed \$295,325 to United Way of Story County. The fall campaign wraps up Dec. 7, but United Way accepts contributions all year.

Day of Caring

Some employees already have chosen to get their hands dirty for United Way. Earlier this summer, faculty and staff had a chance to sign up for United Way's annual Day of Caring on Sept. 11. On this day, volunteers from Iowa State and other businesses and organizations across the county assist various nonprofit agencies with everything from painting building exteriors, to washing windows, to sprucing up yards.

Iowa State has 11 teams comprising about 75 faculty and staff participating in this year's Day of Caring. The College of Human Sciences has another team of 125 freshmen, who will take turns spreading mulch, picking up trash and pulling weeds on campus. The other teams will help agencies in Ames, Huxley and Story City.

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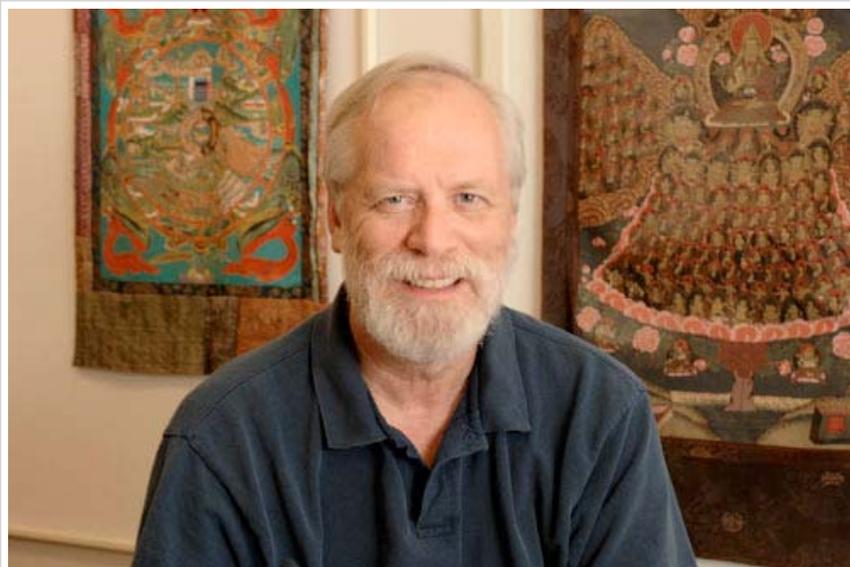
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Arnold van der Valk

2009-10 Faculty Senate president

Position at ISU

Professor of ecology, evolution and organismal biology

Arrived at ISU

1973

Previous service on Faculty Senate

Senator (2004-08); executive board (2004-05, 2008-09); president-elect (2008-09); resource policies and allocations council member (2004-09); faculty compensation committee chair (2008-09); committee on committees member (2004-05) and chair (2008-09); business and finance committee (2008-09); Liberal Arts and Sciences caucus chair (2004-05)

Senate's top goals this year

- Dealing with budget crisis (preserving faculty positions, sustaining academic quality)
- Restoring lost tenure-track positions
- Improving teaching
- Resolving issue of non-tenure track faculty numbers
- Improving post-tenure reviews

Thoughts on the year ahead

"It is going to be a difficult year for everyone at ISU, especially if there are additional budget cuts to the university's state appropriations during the academic year. Budget reductions combined with a significant increase in enrollment have increased faculty workloads and negatively altered faculty work-life balance. I am sure that our faculty will rise to the occasion, but this trend toward reduced state support for the university cannot be sustained without it having negative consequences for our academic and research programs."

Issue that could be the most important to the senate this year

"The budget will be the overriding issue this year, especially any additional budget cuts during this academic year. How to deal with additional budget cuts will raise difficult and controversial

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issues with which the senate will have to deal, such as elimination of small academic programs, merging of academic units, and possibly reduction in faculty numbers."

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New calendar gives users more options

by Erin Rosacker

Iowa State's [online events calendar](#) received an overhaul recently, giving users more interactive options to keep up with what's happening on campus.

Now users can customize what they want to see by category. "Featured Events" is the default feed for viewing calendar entries, but events also can be filtered into these categories:

- All (every category)
- Academic calendar (Registrar deadlines, University holidays)
- Arts, performances (concerts, films, plays, exhibits, arts workshops)
- Athletics (Cyclone games and events)
- Conferences (day-long symposiums, seminars)
- Diversity (multi-cultural activities)
- Lectures (speakers, panels, presentations)
- Live Green (events and topics supporting green initiatives)
- Meetings, receptions (retirements, open forums, book signings)
- Special events (dedications, ceremonies, banquets)
- Student activities (SUB and student club/organization events, socials)
- Training, development (classes, workshops, "lunch and learns")

Events can be displayed as a daily, weekly or monthly list. A calendar box in the top left corner also gives users the ability to check a specific date.

Looking for something in particular? Just type keywords into the "Search Events Calendar" field at the top of the page to find an event in the database. More specific search parameters also are available.

Keep connected

E-mail reminders, RSS feeds and downloads are new options available to calendar users.

To receive a weekly e-mail of upcoming campus events, send your e-mail address to weeklyevents@iastate.edu. A list of the upcoming week's featured events will show up in your inbox early Sunday morning. For individual events, you can have an e-mail reminder sent to you -- on any one of the days prior to the event, or on the day of the event.

Users can download their favorite event categories (or individual events) for their Microsoft Outlook (PC) or iCal (Mac) applications using iCalendar or vCalendar files. Customized RSS feeds of the calendar event categories also are available.

More information on subscribing to these feeds, including download directions, is available on the [calendar home page](#) by clicking on the "Subscribe" link at the bottom of the left column. Some hold-over favorites still are available, too. Links to other calendars -- alumni, exhibits, ISU Extension, interfaith and City of Ames -- are listed under "More Calendars."

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Receptions & open houses

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Faculty forums address today's issues

by Paula Van Brocklin

The Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost and the Committee on Lectures are sponsoring a series of faculty forums this fall. The forums highlight the research of several Iowa State faculty members on timely topics. All forums will be held at 8 p.m. in the Great Hall, Memorial Union. They are free and open to the public.

The first forum, slated for Thursday, Sept. 10, will address health care reform. Panelists include:

- Liesl Eathington, director of the Regional Capacity Analysis Program (ReCAP) and assistant scientist in the department of economics, who recently authored a report on the uninsured
- Mark Imerman, economist and director of recruitment services for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, who has researched the cost of health care
- Dr. Michael Kitchell, a physician with McFarland Clinic and president of the Iowa Medical Society, who has testified before the House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Health
- Doug Walker, assistant professor of marketing, who has researched the impact of pharmaceutical advertising

Dianne Bystrom, director of the Carrie Chapman Catt Center for Women and Politics, will moderate the discussion and speak about the role of political rhetoric in the health care reform debate. President Gregory Geoffroy will provide opening remarks.

The health care reform forum also is sponsored by the colleges of Liberal Arts and Sciences and Business.

Save the dates

Two additional faculty forums are planned for later this fall. Mark your calendars for Tuesday, Oct. 13, for a forum on economic recovery, and for Tuesday, Nov. 3, for a discussion about global climate change.

Peter Orazem, University Professor of Economics, and David Peters, assistant professor of sociology, will participate in the October forum. Additional panelists may join them.

November panelists who will address global climate change are Gene Takle, professor in agronomy and geological and atmospheric sciences; John Miranowski, director of the Institute of Science and Society; William Gutowski, professor of geological and atmospheric sciences; and Ray Aritt, professor of agronomy. Members of ISU's Climate Science Initiative team also will join the panel.

For more information about these forums and other upcoming lectures, visit [lectures](#) or the [university calendar](#) online.

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Sept. 3, 2009

Students, employees urged to create emergency contact list

by Diana Pounds

If you were seriously injured, ill or missing, who would you want to be notified?

A new addition to [AccessPlus](#) allows students, faculty and staff to designate several emergency contacts in order of preference. In an emergency, officials would start at the top of an individual's contact list and keep trying until reaching one of the contacts.

"We hope everyone will take a few moments to sign into AccessPlus and designate their emergency contacts," said registrar Kathleen Jones. "This will help ensure that the right people get called promptly in emergencies."

Each individual can name up to five contacts.

Jones said emergency contact information is confidential and will only be available to emergency response staff such as ISU police or the dean of students. It will **not** be available for campus departments to use as contact information.

Employees can get more information about emergency contacts from Vicki Brubaker, associate director of human resource services, vabruba@iastate.edu. Students should direct questions to the office of the registrar, registrar@iastate.edu.

How to designate your emergency contacts

- Sign onto [AccessPlus](#)
- Click "emergency contact" in the left column
- Provide information on up to five contacts

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Receptions & open houses

Sept. 3, 2009

ISU receives high marks in *Washington Monthly's* annual college rankings

Iowa State ranks 32nd out of 258 colleges and universities in *Washington Monthly's* 2009 national university college rankings. The rankings, out this week, rate schools on their contribution to the public good in three broad categories -- improving social mobility, producing research and promoting public service.

See *Washington Monthly's* national university college rankings.

ISU gets high marks for federal work-study funds spent on service (ranked No. 4), science and engineering degrees awarded (ranked No. 33), ROTC (ranked No. 55), research expenditures (ranked No. 63) and faculty in national academies (ranked No. 79).

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Inside headlines

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Senate president Arnold van der Valk said they will look to preserve jobs and academic excellence during lean budget times.

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- TIAA-CREF and IPERS offer retirement help
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- Food booth volunteers must complete food safety training
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- Free informational lunch on MBA program is Sept. 16
- ISUCard and building access card combined
- *Nutcracker Ballet* auditions Sept. 13
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Receptions & open houses

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Shake it up with 'Shivers'

The Performing Arts Series at Stephens Auditorium opens Sept. 9 with the musical stylings of White Ghost Shivers. The eight-piece band blends musical influences from blues, swing, country and flapper-era jazz. Their self-described "Bawdville" show originates from Austin, Texas. Tickets are \$33 (\$25 for youth, \$20 for ISU students), and are available at the Stephens box office, or online through [Ticketmaster](#). Show time is 7:30 p.m. *Contributed photo.*

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Receptions & open houses

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Missed a new release this summer? Catch it this fall on campus

The fall film series, sponsored by the Student Union Board and featuring 2009 releases, is under way. The showings are free and open to the public. Showings begin at 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. Thursdays in the Memorial Union Pioneer Room and at 7 p.m. Sundays in the MU's Soultz Family Visitor Center (adjacent to the new south entrance), unless otherwise noted.

Here's the lineup for the rest of the semester:

Visit the SUB Films [web site](#).

- Sept. 3, Sept. 6: *Angels and Demons* (PG13)
- Sept. 10, Sept. 13: *The Proposal* (PG13)
- Sept. 17, Sept. 20: *Star Trek* (PG13), also a 9 p.m. showing Sept. 18 on the top level of the MU parking ramp
- Sept. 24, Sept. 27: *Up* (PG), also 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. showings Sept. 25-26 in the MU Pioneer Room
- Oct. 1, Oct. 4: *Public Enemies* (R)
- Oct. 8, Oct. 11: *The Hangover* (R)
- Oct. 15, Oct. 18: *Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen* (PG13), also 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. showings Oct. 16-17 in the MU Pioneer Room
- Oct. 22, Oct. 25: *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince* (PG)
- Oct. 29, Nov. 1: *Orphan* (R)
- Nov. 5, Nov. 8: *Funny People* (R)
- Nov. 12, Nov. 15: *The Ugly Truth* (R)
- Nov. 19 only: *G.I. Joe: The Rise of Cobra* (PG13), MU Great Hall
- Dec. 3, Dec. 6: *Inglourious Basterds* (R)

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